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Message Text

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ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 VOE-00 SS-20 PER-05 ABF-01 RSC-01

DRC-01 /036 W
---------- 065306
R 251955Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8617

UNCLAS PARIS 10077

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: NONIMMIGRANT VISA ISSUANCE PROCESS

REF: STATE 21246

1. WITH INAUGURATION OF COUNTER OPERATIONS IN 1973, EMBASSY WAS ABLE FOR FIRST TIME TO ISSUE NIV'S DURING PEAK SEASON TO WAITING APPLICANTS. RESULT WAS SAVING OF MANHOURS PREVIOUSLY SPENT IN FILING, HANDING OUT AND LOOKING FOR OCCASIONALLY MISPLACED PASSPORTS AND ANSWERING TELEPHONE CALLS FROM ANXIOUS APPLICANTS. SPACE PROBLEM CAUSED BY WAITING APPLICANTS SEEMED NO WORSE THAN THAT CAUSED BY FORMER QUEUE OF APPLICANTS RETURNING TO PICK UP PASSPORTS. WE WOULD BE LOATH TO RETURN TO OLD SYSTEM.

2. HOWEVER, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO ENCOURAGE MATURE FRENCH B-1,B-2 APPLICANTS, WHO DO NOT REQUIRE INTERVIEWS, TO DEPOSIT PASSPORTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR RETURN BY MAIL ON FOLLOWING DAY AND HAVE INSTALLED STAMP VENDING MACHINE AND SUPPLY ENVELOPES FOR THAT PURPOSE. TO DATE, ONLY THREE TO FIVE OF ABOUT 400 APPLICANTS PER DAY ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS SYSTEM. FRENCH ARE APPARENTLY RELUCTANT TO ENTRUST PASSPORTS TO MAIL, AND OUR APPLICATIONS BY MAIL COME MAINLY FROM DISTANT POINTS. IF SYSTEM DOES CATCH ON, WE SHALL
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CONSIDER CUTTING DOWN OUR HOURS OPEN TO THE PU-

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BLIC TO HAVE MORE TIME FOR THOSE APPLICA-
TIONS AND OUR APPROXIMATELY 15,500 PER YEAR TRA-
VEL AGENCY APPLICATIONS. AS OF NOW, OUR 32.1/2
HOURS PER WEEK WORK OUT BEST FOR PUBLIC AND STAFF.

3. OUR OPERATIONS ARE, IN GENERAL,IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS IN PART C OF REFTEL,
AND WE HAVE ADOPTED THE SUGGESTION IN PARAGRAPH 3
OF SECTION D. BY HIRING A QUALIFIED DEPENDENT AME-
RICAN AS TEMPORARY HELP FOR OUR PEAK SEASON.
IRWIN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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